

Name _____

Grade: 3 Reading

Date _____

Theme 1 Selection: 3

"The Waterfall"

Read the selection.

Then, answer the following questions.

1. What is the synonym for the word scrawny?

- a) thick
- b) thin
- c) long
- d) short

2. Why must the family balance the backpacks on their heads as they wade through the river?

- a) To keep the sun out of their eyes.
- b) Because the backpacks were heavy.
- c) To keep their backpacks dry.
- d) To move faster through the water.

3. What is the author's purpose for writing this story?

- a) To inform
- b) To persuade
- c) To show
- d) To entertain

4. Which sentence below is an example of personification?

- a) "We had a cookout and watched the sparks climb to the stars."
- b) "Later I snuggled in my sleeping bag."
- c) "In the morning we found tracks."
- d) "I was the first one on the waterfall."

5. Which sentence about the story is an opinion?

- a) The family hiked to a waterfall.
- b) This is the best story I ever read.
- c) The boy found mountain lion tracks.
- d) The family brought a piece of driftwood home.

6. The genre of this selection is

- a) nonfiction
- b) poem
- c) autobiography
- d) realistic fiction

7. Which word is an antonym for anxious?

- a) calm
- b) excited
- c) nervous
- d) scared

8. Why does the boy want to keep the driftwood?

- a) To give to his dog at home
- b) To use as a walking stick
- c) To remember the family hike and his successful climb
- d) To use as firewood

9. What is the main idea of the story?

- a) The family found mountain lion tracks.
- b) The family balanced backpacks on their heads.
- c) The family enjoys going on an adventure together.
- d) The family went on a hike in July.

Open-ended Response

The family in this selection enjoys going on adventure together. Think about an adventure your family experienced. Show how your family is similar to the family in the story. Give two examples.

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Grade 3 Reading
Theme 1 Selection 3 “The Waterfall”
Answer Key and Eligible Content

Item Number	Answer	Descriptor	Assessment Anchor
1	b	Synonyms	R3.A.1.1.2
2	c	Inference	R3.A.1.3.1
3	d	Genre	R3.A.1.6.1
4	a	Figurative Lang.	R3.B.1.2.1
5	b	Fact/Opinion	R3.B.3.1.1
6	d	Genre	R3.A.1.6.1
7	a	Antonyms	R3.A.1.1.2
8	c	Inference	R3.A.1.3.1
9	c	Main Idea	R3.A.1.4.1

Open-ended Rubric

3 Points

Paragraph describes whether the student compares his/her family experience with the story and gives two examples from the selection.

2 Points

Paragraph describes whether the student compares his/her family experiences with the story and gives only one example from the selection.

1 Point

Paragraph describes whether the student compares his/her family experiences but does not use any examples from the selection.

0 Points

Response provides insufficient material for scoring, is inaccurate, or incomplete